## **NEWS RELEASE**

## OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

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For Immediate Release

MAY 18, 2004

Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on May 14, 2004, **THOMAS A. DAVIS**, age 42, of Fairview Heights, d/b/a Davis Towing in Washington Park, Illinois, was sentenced to a six (6) month term of imprisonment on the federal felony offenses of **WIRE FRAUD IN A SCHEME TO DEFRAUD THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION**, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343, and to two counts charge **MAKING A MATERIAL FALSE STATEMENT TO THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION**, in violation of Title 42, United States Code, Section 408(a)(3). **THOMAS A. DAVIS** was additionally fined \$10,000 and was ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$28,940 to the Social Security Administration. Following his release from prison, **THOMAS A. DAVIS** is required to serve a three (3) year term of supervised release.

THOMAS A. DAVIS admitted that he had been working since at least January of 1999 and failed to report his work and income to the Social Security Administration, resulting in an overpayment of \$28,940. THOMAS A. DAVIS further admitted to being an owner of Davis Towing and the Chameleon Club in Washington Park, Illinois. At the sentencing, evidence was introduced that THOMAS A. DAVIS lied to federal law enforcement and lied to a pretrial services officer in connection with the investigation and prosecution.

The successful prosecution follows an investigation conducted by the Social Security Administration, Office of Inspector General's Office and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The prosecution of the case is being handled by Assistant United States Attorney Norman R. Smith.